

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 AF-10 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

INT-08 DRC-01 /225 W

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O R 230825Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8142

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4100

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: GOK FONMIN REQUESTS CLARIFICATION OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS

1. UNDERSEC RASHID CALLED ME TO FOREIGN MINISTRY NOV 22 TO SAY FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD WAS AT THAT MOMENT AT AIRPORT, ABOUT TO DEPART FOR ALGIERS CONFERENCES, AND HAD ASKED RASHID "SEEK CLARIFICATION" OF REMARKS SECRETARY HAD MADE ON MIDEAST TO NEWSMEN PREVIOUS DAY. RASHID SAID HE AND FONMIN HAD NOT SEEN TEXT OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS BUT THERE WAS "MUCH SPECULATION AND MANY RUMORS" THAT DR. KISSINGER HAD THREATENED RETALIATION AGAINST ARABS FOR THEIR OIL EMBARGO. RASHID SAID FONMIN SABAH HAD EXPRESSED HOPE USG UNDERSTOOD THAT PURPOSE OF ARAB OIL CUTS WAS NOT DELIBERATELY TO HURT PEOPLE BUT TO BRING ABOUT US-WESTERN
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UNDERSTANDING OF ARAB DETERMINATION TO REGAIN LOST LANDS. IF USG

WERE NOW TO RETALIATE AGAINST ARABS, ANOTHER MASSIVE BLOW WOULD BE DEALT TO US-ARAB RELATIONS AND THEREFORE TO US INTERESTS IN AREA.

2. I REQUESTED RASHID PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FONMIN: US NOW ENGAGED IN MAJOR EFFORT ASSIST PARTIES TO MIDEAST DISPUTE COME TOGETHER TO WORK OUT JUST SOLUTION. THROUGH THEIR MILITARY ACTION AND OIL CUTS, ARABS HAD MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR THEIR INTENTION TRY TO FORCE RETURN OF LOST LANDS. QUESTION NOW WAS DID ARABS KNOW WHEN THEY HAD CARRIED MATTERS FAR ENOUGH. US OBVIOUSLY NOT RPT NOT GOING TO TAKE POSITION WE UNABLE TO COPE WITH ARAB OIL EMBARGO. WE COULD AND WOULD, AS PRESIDENT HIMSELF HAD MADE CRYSTALLY CLEAR. THERE WAS NO NEED WHATEVER TO SEE THIS POSITION AS THREAT TO ANYONE. KUWAITI DELEGATION SHOULD GO TO ALGIERS CONFERENCES WITH FOLLOWING AIMS IN MIND: TO SUPPORT SADAT IN HIS EFFORTS TO GO TO PEACE CONFERENCE TABLE, AND TO WORK AGAINST ANY ARAB ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS THAT WOULD MAKE MOVE TOWARD SETTLEMENT MORE DIFFICULT.

3. RASHID SAID HE HOPED US COULD ACHIEVE SOME BREAK-THROUGH, SUCH AS RETURN OF PARTIES TO OCT 22; CEASETNIRE LINES, IN TIME FOR ALGIERS SUMMIT CONFERENCE. I SAID CONFERENCE SHOULD KEEP EYE ON THE BALL WHICH WAS HOW EARLIEST JUST SETTLEMENT COULD BE ACHIEVED.

4. RASHID ASKED FOR ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION SOONEST OF SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AT NOV 21 NEWS CONFERENCE THAT WASHINGTON ABLE PROVIDE. WE PROVIDING EXCERPTS OF SECRETARY'S REMARKS AND UNDER SECRETARY PROTER'S NOV 20 SPEECH, AS RECEIVED IN WIRELESS FILE. APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFO OR MATERIAL DEPT MAY HAVE.
STOLTZFUS

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